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- f) a means for sealing and cutting the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube after it has been selected, the means for sealing and cutting comprising:
- i) an alignment roller;
 - ii) a nip roller assembly;
 - iii) a sealing head for making a transverse seal in the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube;
 - iv) a cutting head for cutting the sealed lay-flat thermoplastic film tube to make a bag; and
 - v) a means for dispensing the bag.

26. The system of claim 25 wherein the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tubes comprise heat shrinkable film.

27. The system of claim 25 comprising a means for inputting capable of enabling a user of the system to use the means for selecting the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube based on the size of the product to be packaged.

28. The system of claim 25 comprising a means for inputting capable of enabling a user of the system to use the means for selecting a length of the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube based on the size of the product to be packaged.

29. The system of claim 25 comprising a means for remotely sensing to determine the size of the product to be packaged, and a means to control the means for selecting the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube based on the size of the product to be packaged.

30. The system of claim 25 comprising a means for remotely sensing to determine the size of the product to be packaged, and a means to control the means for selecting a length of the first or second lay-flat film tube based on the size of the product to be packaged.

31. The system of claim 25 comprising a printer for printing onto the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube.

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32. The system of claim 25 wherein the nip roller assembly comprises a fixed roller, a reciprocal roller, and a cylinder, wherein the reciprocal roller is capable of being advanced and retracted relative to the fixed roller by means of the cylinder.
33. A method for providing bags for packaging product of varying size comprising:
- a) determining the size of the product to be packaged;
 - b) selecting a first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube from a first or second film roller respectively, the first lay-flat thermoplastic film tube having a width different from the second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube;
 - c) determining the length of the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube to be advanced;
 - d) advancing the determined length of the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube;
 - e) transversely sealing the advanced lay-flat thermoplastic film tube;
 - f) cutting the sealed film tube to form a bag; and
 - g) dispensing the bag.

REMARKS

Claims 14 to 24 have been canceled..

Claims 25 to 33 have been added. No new matter has been added.

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, claims 14 to 20, and 23 to 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Lenker et al. (US 4,516,385) in view of Ginestra et al. (US 5,655, 356). Applicants respectively traverse to the extent this rejection may be applied to the newly added claims.

Independent claim 25 defines a system for packaging products of varying size. The system includes a first and second film roller, and also includes, as an element of each roller, a lay-flat thermoplastic film tube. Lenker et al. discloses what appears to be a flat plastic film or sheet, not a tube; Ginestra teaches the use of paper withdrawn from a roll supply. Thus, neither reference discloses at least two rollers, each holding a lay-flat thermoplastic film tube.

Independent claim 25 also requires a means for sealing and cutting the first or second lay-flat thermoplastic film tube after it has been selected, the means for sealing and cutting including: